AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing network bandwidth wastage

incident to sending an electronic document to a nonexistent member of a

distribution list having multiple destination addresses for respective members,

comprising:

receiving a document by a document distribution server;

~~expanding the distribution list into its constituent recipients;~~

recording in a database a document identifier and the distribution list;

distributing the document to the members of the distribution list;

receiving, in response to distributing to a first member of the distribution list, an

error message including the document identifier;

looking up the document identifier in the database to identify the distribution list;

and

automatically deleting the destination address for the first member from the

distribution list so that a subsequent sending to the distribution list avoids

corresponding subsequent error messages.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the wastage comprises

bandwidth required for:

the distributing the document to the nonexistent member;

the error message received in response to the distributing;

a reply by a second member of the distribution list, in response to the distributing,

which is distributed to the nonexistent member; and

an error message responsive to the reply.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein members of the

       distribution list receive distributions addressed such that replies to the

       distributions are directed to the members of the distribution list.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

       disposing a Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI) application

             program within a first computing device;

       composing by the user of the document with the application program; and

       disposing the document distribution server in a second computing device.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the application program

       includes an object-oriented programming language.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the application program

       comprises a Microsoft Outlook e-mail functionality.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

       providing a Microsoft Windows operating system environment having a

             Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI);

       disposing a MAPI application program within a first computing device;

       composing by the user of the document with the application program; and

       disposing the document distribution server in a second computing device.

8.   (Currently Amended) A method for reducing network bandwidth wastage

incident to sending an electronic document to a nonexistent member of a

distribution list, comprising:

executing an e-mail application program utilizing a selected one of: Microsoft

Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI)-based, and

Microsoft Active Messaging;

addressing the electronic document to the distribution list;

~~expanding the distribution list into its constituent recipients;~~

recording in a database a document identifier cross-referencing the electronic

document with the distribution list;

sending the electronic document with the MAPI application program;

distributing the electronic document to members of the distribution list;

receiving an error message for the distributing to the nonexistent member, the

error message comprising the document identifier;

looking up the document identifier of the error message in the database so as to

identify the distribution list; and

automatically deleting the nonexistent member from the distribution list.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

receiving the electronic document by a distribution server which performs the

distributing the electronic document, receiving the error message, and

looking up the identifier.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

determining the identifier based on attributes of the electronic document, the

attributes comprising a subject identifier, a sending time, and a distribution

list identifier.

11-16. (Cancelled)

17.   (Currently Amended) A system for reducing network bandwidth wastage incident

to sending an electronic document to a nonexistent member of a distribution list,

comprising:

a database;

a mail transport agent (MTA) coupled with the database, the MTA to

execute a Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI)-based e-

mail application program,

~~expand the distribution list into its constituent recipients,~~

record in the database an identifier cross-referencing the electronic

document with the distribution list,

distribute the electronic document to members of the distribution list;

receive an error message for distribution to a nonexistent member, the

error message comprising the identifier,

look up the identifier of the error message in the database so as to identify

the distribution list, and

automatically delete the nonexistent member from the distribution list; and

a mail user agent (MUA) coupled with the ~~MTU~~ MTA via a network, the MUA to

address the electronic document to the distribution list, and send the

electronic document with the MAPI application program;.

18.   (Cancelled)

19.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the MTA

determines the identifier based on attributes of the electronic document, the

attributes comprising a subject identifier, a sending time, and a distribution

list identifier.

20.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the MAPI application

program includes an object-oriented programming language.

21.   (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data

representing sets of instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the

machine to:

receive a document by a document distribution server;

~~expand the distribution list into its constituent recipients;~~

record in a database a document identifier and the distribution list;

distribute the document to the members of the distribution list;

receive, in response to distributing to a first member of the distribution list, an

error message comprising the document identifier;

look up the document identifier in the database so as to identify the distribution

list; and

automatically delete the destination address for the first member from the

distribution list so that a subsequent sending to the distribution list avoids

corresponding subsequent error messages.

22.   (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the

sets of instructions, when executed by the machine, further cause the machine to

receive distributions addressed to the distribution list so that replies to the

distributions are directed to the members of the distribution list.

23.   (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the

sets of instructions, when executed by the machine, further cause the machine to:

dispose a Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI) application

program within a first computing device;

compose by the user of the document with the application program; and

dispose the document distribution server in a second computing device.

24.   (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the

MAPI application program includes an object-oriented programming language.

25.   (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the

MAPI application program comprises a Microsoft Outlook e-mail functionality.